

EXHIBIT E

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
NORTHERN DIVISION

GERALD RUHNOW and CONNIE

*

RUHNOW,

*

Plaintiffs,

*

*

VS.

* NO. 2:05 CV 527-F

*

LANE HEARD TRUCKING, LLC.,

*

et al

*

Defendants.

*

ORAL DEPOSITION OF MS. CHRISTY CHAMPION,
a witness produced pursuant to the Federal Rules of
Civil Procedure, in the above-styled and numbered
cause on the 19th day of April, 2006, before Sheila
Hanson, CSR, a Notary Public in and for the State of
Alabama, at the law offices of Mr. Cliff Hastings
with Cervera, Ralph & Reeves, Attorneys at Law, Troy,
Alabama.

EXHIBIT

* * * * *

E

ORIGINAL

1 Q When you first saw the motorcycle --
2 you've drawn, it was fully in the lane?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q Basically in the middle of the lane where
5 you were traveling?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q Then there is an impact, you now know,
8 between the motorcycle and your car? Correct?

9 A Yes.

10 Q You realize that when you look in your
11 mirror?

12 A Yes.

13 Q What happened to the driver? Do you see
14 what happened to Mr. Adkins after the impact?

15 A I'm -- I keep looking in my rear-view
16 mirror. And he was still on the motorcycle. And
17 then I seen the motorcycle go down onto the
18 roadway.

19 Q And Mr. Adkins, along with it, I guess?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q What did you do at that time?

22 A I moved my vehicle over into this turn
23 lane. And his motorcycle was still right here.

24 Q And you've drawn a line in the right-hand
25 southbound lane?

1 A Uh-huh.

2 Q And it's all perpendicular to the road?
3 Is that the way it was lying?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q Which direction was the front wheel of
6 the motorcycle pointing?

7 A The wheels would be pointing back this
8 way.

9 Q The two little circles below the line
10 would indicate the wheels?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q Was it lying in the middle of the lane,
13 as you are showing it there? Or was it towards the
14 right-hand edge? Or towards the middle?

15 A It was just like that.

16 Q All right. I'm looking, and I just want
17 to get it clear. Because I want to make sure we are
18 all on the same page. I'm looking at the
19 interrogatory answer to number 6. And it states that
20 the motorcycle was on the edge of the right-hand
21 lane. Tell me what you mean by that?

22 A Meaning that the back wheel was closer to
23 the edge of roadway.

24 Q That's what I'm trying to figure out.
25 The back wheel was closer to the right-hand side of

1 the southbound slow lane?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q And so the front wheel would have been
4 pointing back towards the middle of the highway; and
5 the wheels, on the north side of the motorcycle.
6 Okay.

7 So you stopped your car. And you have
8 drawn another rectangle in the turn lane for the
9 store?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q Do you have a judgment, Ms. Champion, as
12 to how far your car traveled from, when you first saw
13 him in the rear-view mirror and realized that
14 something happened, and when you were able to bring
15 it to a stop?

16 A It wasn't very far.

17 Q You weren't all the way to the store,
18 yet?

19 A No, sir. I was -- I had gotten into this
20 turn lane.

21 Q After you realized what happened, you
22 pulled, as quickly as you could -- pulled over into
23 the turn lane and stopped?

24 A And still, you know, checking my
25 rear-view mirror, making sure there was nothing, and

1 A Okay. As I'm walking back, I could see
2 the motorcycle. But, I mean, as far as for the truck
3 driver, from his standpoint, it was too dark.

4 Q I'm not asking about the truck driver.
5 I'm saying: Could you see the motorcycle as you
6 walked back to talk to Mr. Adkins -- after you were
7 able to stop and park your car, could you see
8 Mr. Adkins?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q I know you are familiar with this area.
11 Would your car, with the lights on, have been visible
12 to the vehicle that came on top of what you described
13 as the hill and began in this straight area?

14 MS. HAMMETT: Object to the form.

15 A You lost me on that.

16 Q That was a bad question. If your car is
17 parked here? Right?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q And the lights are on?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q Pinckard's is right here?

22 A Yes, sir.

23 Q Lights on? Could a vehicle, if they were
24 looking, coming from Troy, have seen your car with
25 the lights on, on the side of the road, as it was

1 Sales?

2 A Yes, ma'am.

3 Q After the collision with the motorcycle,
4 your collision with the motorcycle, you testified
5 that the motorcycle lights were not on? Is that
6 correct?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And you pulled over into the right-hand
9 turn lane? Is that correct?

10 A From the store.

11 Q And you turned off your vehicle?

12 A Yes, ma'am.

13 Q Were the headlights still on?

14 A Yes, ma'am.

15 Q Did you turn your flashers on, your
16 emergency lights on?

17 A No, ma'am, I didn't turn those on.

18 Q You testified earlier about, that you
19 know that you collided with the motorcycle because
20 there was damage to your vehicle?

21 A Right.

22 Q And both taillights were out?

23 A Right.

24 Q That was as a result of your collision
25 with the motorcycle?